

M E T R O*planning*
N E W S

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South Central Neighborhood Plan

By Scott Knebel

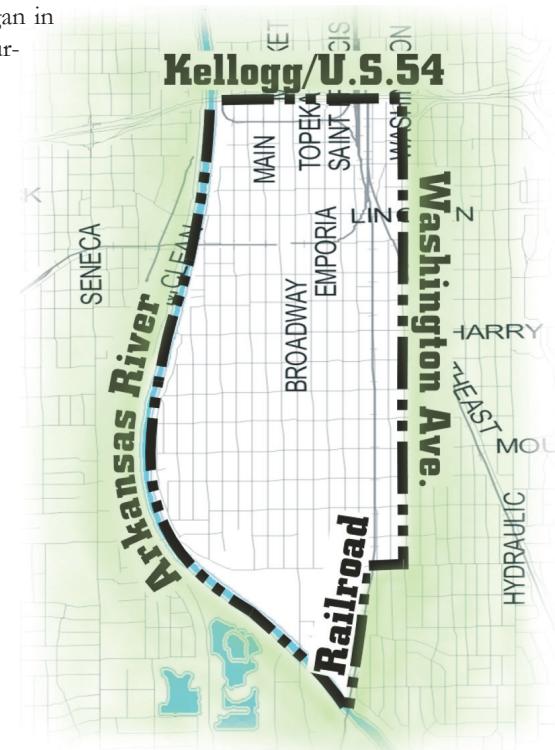
The South Central Progressive Neighborhood Association and the South Central Improvement Alliance collaborated efforts to initiate and request an update of the 1995 South Central District Revitalization Plan. On September 13, the Wichita City Council approved the request for the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department to work in partnership with the South Central Neighborhood and authorized the City Manager to appoint a steering committee to guide the plan update. The neighborhood plan update will provide long-term implementation strategies for the revitalization of distressed areas within the neighborhood, as well as, the conservation of the neighborhood as a whole.

Initial steering committee meetings began in September to discuss the background and purpose of the plan and what needs to be accomplished through the planning process. A series of meetings will be held to continue the visioning process and the development of broad-based, long-range neighborhood improvement strategies. These meetings will be held at the Bethany United Methodist Church located at 1601 S. Main at 5:30pm on the following dates:

South Central Neighborhood Plan Meetings *

- October 13, 2005
- October 27, 2005
- November 10, 2005
- December 1, 2005
- December 15, 2005
- January 12, 2006
- January 26, 2006

*subject to change



In addition, a survey is being distributed to all neighborhood residents to solicit opinions about the future of the neighborhood, which will help shape the strategies being developed to improve the neighborhood. Results of the survey will be presented at the November 10, 2005 meeting. It is projected that a draft will be ready by February of 2006 and finalized and approved by May of 2006. If you have any questions about the planning process or survey, please contact Scott Knebel, Principal Planner, Metropolitan Area Planning Department, at 316-268-4456 or sknebel@wichita.gov. Updates regarding the neighborhood plan and future meeting dates are available online at: <http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/AdvancedPlans/>

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WAMPO's Moving Forward in Full Force

By WAMPO Staff

2030 Long Range Transportation Plan Adopted

Transportation is central to every aspect of community life, affects every individual, and influences development, quality of life, and economic growth. Long range transportation planning is a guide to how the area will manage multi-modal transportation based on current trends and projected future demand, as well as, estimating how changes in the system will affect travel behavior and operation in the future.

The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) adopted the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) on August 25, 2005. The Plan reviews existing conditions, identifies future needs, and clearly states regional goals and objectives. These goals include improving mobility and access to all modes of travel, minimizing environmental impacts, promoting energy conservation, providing for and meeting the transportation needs of people



and goods via highways, roads, rail, air, or pedestrian and bike paths, while at the same time improving safety, convenience, aesthetics, and economic development. A large emphasis is also placed on planning and collaborating regionally for transportation system management and operations.

Public participation in the development of the LRTP was encouraged through newspaper advertisements, electronic message boards, banners, websites, and flyers. The LRTP document can be viewed at <http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/Transportation/>. Also available for review are hard copies at public libraries throughout the region and at the Metropolitan Area Planning Department located on the 10th Floor of the Wichita City Hall at 455 N. Main.

Transportation Improvement Program

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a prioritized list of transportation projects to be implemented in appropriate stages over several years. WAMPO's TIP is a five-year document. As a part of the TIP update, regionally significant projects are programmed to improve the quality of the road network. A public comment period from October 4th to the 19th will be held to provide the public an opportunity to share their comments on the proposed TIP. The WAMPO Policy Body is scheduled to hold a Public Hearing to adopt the FY 2006-2010 TIP on November 17, 2005.



KDOT's 2008 Transportation Enhancement Program

Communities across America are using federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the Nation's intermodal transportation system. TE projects are divided into three categories: 1) bicycle and pedestrian, 2) scenic and environmental, 3) historic. Types of projects eligible for funds include the construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, the preservation of

(continued on next page)



Message from the Director

The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) recently took its first major action when it adopted the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). This plan will guide the ongoing development of the metropolitan area's transportation system.

WAMPO was created in 2005 to succeed the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC) as the policy making body for transportation planning in the Greater Wichita area. The 2000 Census showed that the continuous urbanized area around Wichita had expanded, and now included portions of Butler and Sumner Counties. Since the membership of a metropolitan planning organization must represent that continuous urbanized area, new seats were added to the existing Policy Body. Elected officials from Andover, Mulvane, Wichita Transit, the Sedgewick County Association of Cities, and the Kansas Department of Transportation joined the Policy Body. This expanded entity was renamed the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization to reflect its expanded scope. The result has been a greater spirit of cooperation among metropolitan communities in the area and a broader regional perspective on transportation issues. The Metropolitan Area Planning Department looks forward to supporting this group of policy makers as they continue to face the transportation challenges of the region.

*John Schlegel, Director
Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization*

WAMPO *(continued)*

abandoned railway corridors for conversion to a trail, landscaping projects, tourist centers, environmental mitigation, and rehabilitation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities to name a few. Several projects have been submitted to the WAMPO to be reviewed for consistency with long-range transportation plans. Applications to the Kansas Department of Transportation from the WAMPO region must be postmarked by November 7, 2005.

Future Mobility Needs Study

WAMPO is also in the process of hiring a consultant to assess the future mobility needs of the southern portion of the planning region. This study is a cooperative effort involving Wichita, Derby, Goddard, Haysville, and Mulvane; Sedgwick County, the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Kansas Turnpike Authority. The study should be underway in the fall of 2005 and is expected to take over a year to complete.

2005 Development Trends Report

The 2005 Development Trends Report for Wichita and area communities is now available on the MAPD website at <http://wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/> and at the MAPD office, located on the 10th Floor of the Wichita City Hall. If you have any questions regarding the Development Trends Report, please contact Stephen Banks at 316-268-2272.

Arena Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan Underway

By Dave Barber, AICP

In late July, a 19-member Plan Steering Committee representing a broad range of area stakeholder interests was appointed by the Wichita City Manager to assist Gould Evans Associates LC with the development of Wichita's Arena Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan. So far, the Steering Committee has focused on completing a visual assessment of places and qualities that exist within the Plan area, and developing a redevelopment vision for the area. The Committee has also identified some key issues for Sedgwick County to consider in determining the final location of its arena within the Plan area. For more information on this initiative, contact Dave Barber at 268-4421.



By Dave Barber, AICP

At a joint meeting held on August 24, 2005, representatives from the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners and the City Councils of Derby and Wichita agreed to take action to form an Implementation Coordinating Committee that would help oversee and coordinate efforts to consider the implementation of recommendations contained in the recently completed *McConnell Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study, May 2005*.

Sitting in the capacity of a sounding board and discussion forum only, the Committee is to be comprised of the following key representatives/stakeholders:

- One elected official and one staff member each from Sedgwick County and the Cities of Derby and Wichita.
- One representative each from McConnell Air Force Base, the Wichita Area Builders Association, the Wichita Area Association of Realtors and the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition.

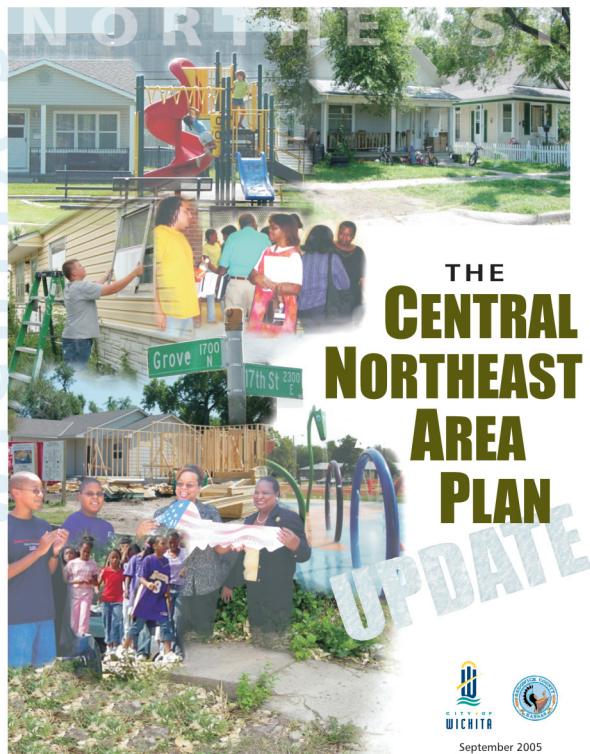
The inaugural meeting of this Committee is scheduled for 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 28, 2005, in the Planning Commission Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall, 455 N. Main St., Wichita.

Bel Aire has a New City Administrator

By Christy Askew

The City of Bel Aire is proud to announce that Mayor Withrow appointed Ms. Barb Crouse as City Administrator. Ms. Crouse started as an intern at the City of Wichita's Water and Sewer Department under the direction of David Warren, and then was hired as the Assistant City Administrator at the City of Bel Aire. Ms. Crouse has been extremely busy in her new position and says that she is looking forward to working with the City of Wichita on a number of issues. She also wanted to invite everyone to Bel Aire Days 2005, on October 14-16 to celebrate Bel Aire's 25th Anniversary! For event information, please visit the Bel Aire Days 2005 website: <http://www.belairedays.com/>





Adoption of the Central Northeast Plan

By Scott Wadle

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department is pleased to announce the completion of the Central Northeast Area Plan Update. Twelve neighborhood associations, two housing development organizations, and multiple area non-profits worked over six months to complete the update to the original 1995 Central Northeast Area Plan. This year's Plan Update includes new community key indicators, an updated vision statement, and revised goals. In addition, the Plan Update serves as a toolbox for area neighborhood associations with action items that provide step-by-step project guides and contact information for local resources.

The District I Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission unanimously recommended support for and approval of the Central Northeast Area Plan Update this last July and August. Then on September 13 & 14, 2005, the Wichita City Council and the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners officially adopted the Plan Update!

PLANNING GREAT COMMUNITIES



VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
www.Wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/

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